

**BALLOT**PEDIA



**2024**

**State of Election Administration**  
Mid-Year Report

# Executive Summary

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Every year, state lawmakers consider thousands of bills that would change how Americans vote and how elections are administered. Ballotpedia's State of Election Administration 2024 Mid-Year Report provides insights, analysis, and takeaways from the more than 3,735 election-related bills we tracked this year.

For the third year in a row, state legislators considered more election-related legislation in states with Democratic trifectas, but adopted more new election laws in states with Republican trifectas.

In Republican-led states, bill topic themes touched on issues such as ballot harvesting/ballot collection, voter registration drives, referring noncitizen voting ballot measures to voters, or preempting efforts to establish ranked-choice voting. In Democratic-led states, bill topic themes included cure provisions for absentee/mail-in voting, new definitions and penalties for voter suppression, and new laws related to election dis- and mis-information.

Several topics found support across the partisan spectrum with new laws in several states related to voter list maintenance, protections for officials and workers, presidential electors, and voting by eligible but incarcerated individuals or someone convicted of a felony.

Just 8.2% (305 bills) of election legislation had bipartisan sponsorship, but lawmakers enacted these bills at a higher rate (20%) than legislation with other sponsorship. Democratic-sponsored legislation was the least likely to be adopted (2.9%), while 10.8% of Republican-sponsored legislation became law. These rates are similar to those for the entire year in 2023 and 2022, when bipartisan legislation was significantly more likely to become law (23.1% in 2023, 17% in 2022) than Republican-sponsored (13%, 9.8%) and Democratic-sponsored legislation (9.1%, 7%).

This report describes activity in the most active states and provides an update and analysis of several topics of note, including ranked-choice voting, voter registration and list maintenance, absentee/mail-in ballot administration, and noncitizen voting.

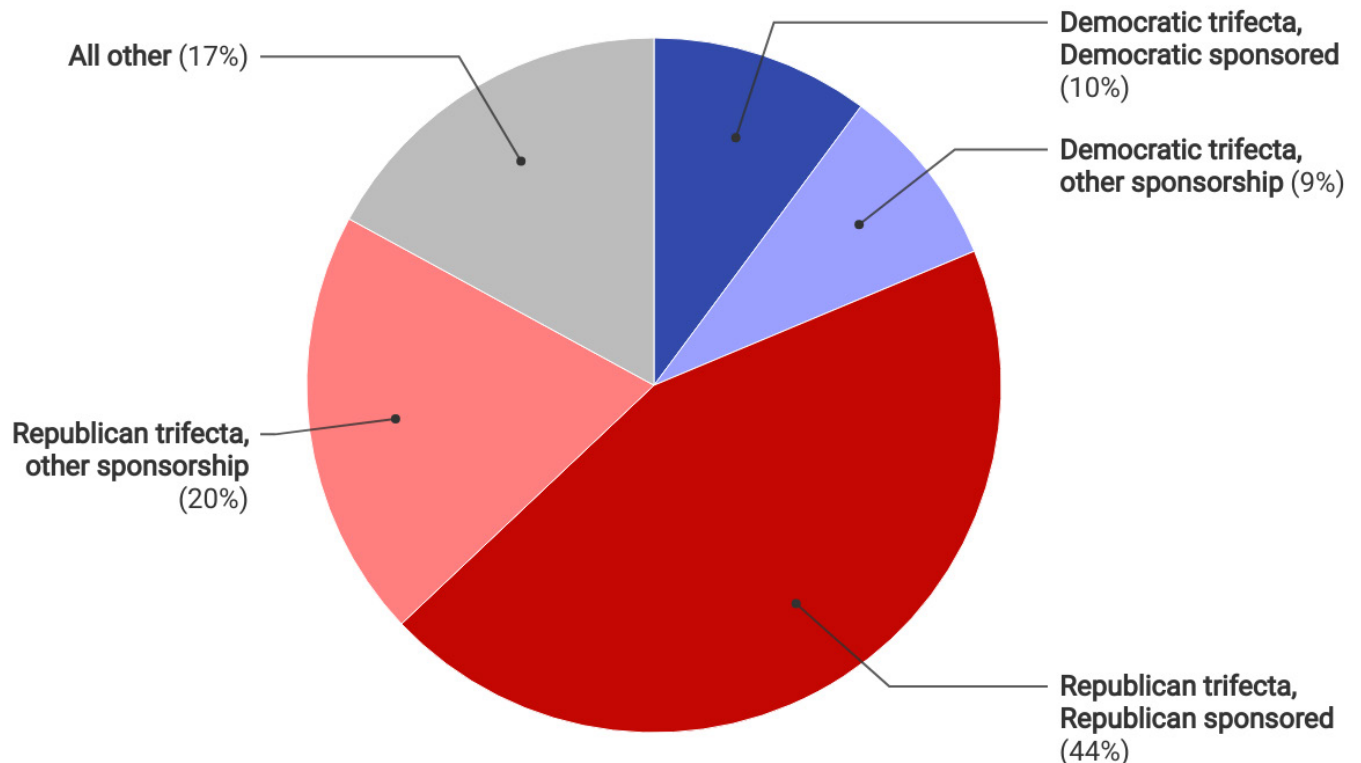
# Executive Summary cont.

The report covers all election-related legislative activity in the 46 states to convene a legislative session from Jan. 1 through June 6, 2024. Unless otherwise noted, the data in this report covers this period. This is the second annual edition of Ballotpedia's Mid-Year Report.

With more than two-thirds of states' regular legislative sessions concluded for the year, this report contains takeaways from the bulk of election-related legislative activity in 2024. Be on the lookout for more analysis and continued coverage of notable election-related legislative activity throughout the remainder of the year.

## Enacted election-related legislation

Showing the number of enacted election-related bills by trifecta status and sponsorship as a portion of all such bills, as of June 6, 2024. In total, state legislators adopted 305 new election laws during this period.



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# About Ballotpedia's Election Administration Legislation Tracker

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Ballotpedia launched our Election Administration Legislation Tracker in June 2022. The tracker is a best-in-class resource to help voters, journalists, researchers, and activists quickly and easily track election-related legislation through a portal on our website.

This user-friendly tracker houses thousands of election-related bills and organizes them by topic with neutral, expert analysis from Ballotpedia's election administration researchers.

In addition to providing daily updates on the bills we track, we summarize each bill in neutral language for a general audience and add category tags that allow for trend analysis. We also publish a weekly email, [Ballotpedia's Ballot Bulletin](#), that delivers the latest updates on election policy, and release a monthly [State of Election Administration Legislation Roundup](#) that curates notable election policy developments from state legislatures.



## Methodology

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Ballotpedia's comprehensive Election Administration Legislation Tracker is the basis for the data and analysis in this report.

Using the tracker, we capture election-related legislation across all 50 state legislatures and provide real-time updates as bills progress. To do this, we use:

- **Automated keyword searches**
- **Manual bill review**
- **Real-time refinements based on keyword results and news monitoring**

Once relevant bills are identified and added to the tracker, our team manually reviews each bill, categorizes each bill by policy area, and summarizes each bill in neutral, easy-to-understand language.

Our bill tagging system—which includes 133 tags in 20 policy areas—allows us to track policy changes and analyze trends in election administration legislation. Since 2023, we have added 13 new tags, including *school board elections*, *public campaign financing*, and *protections for election officials, workers, or volunteers*.

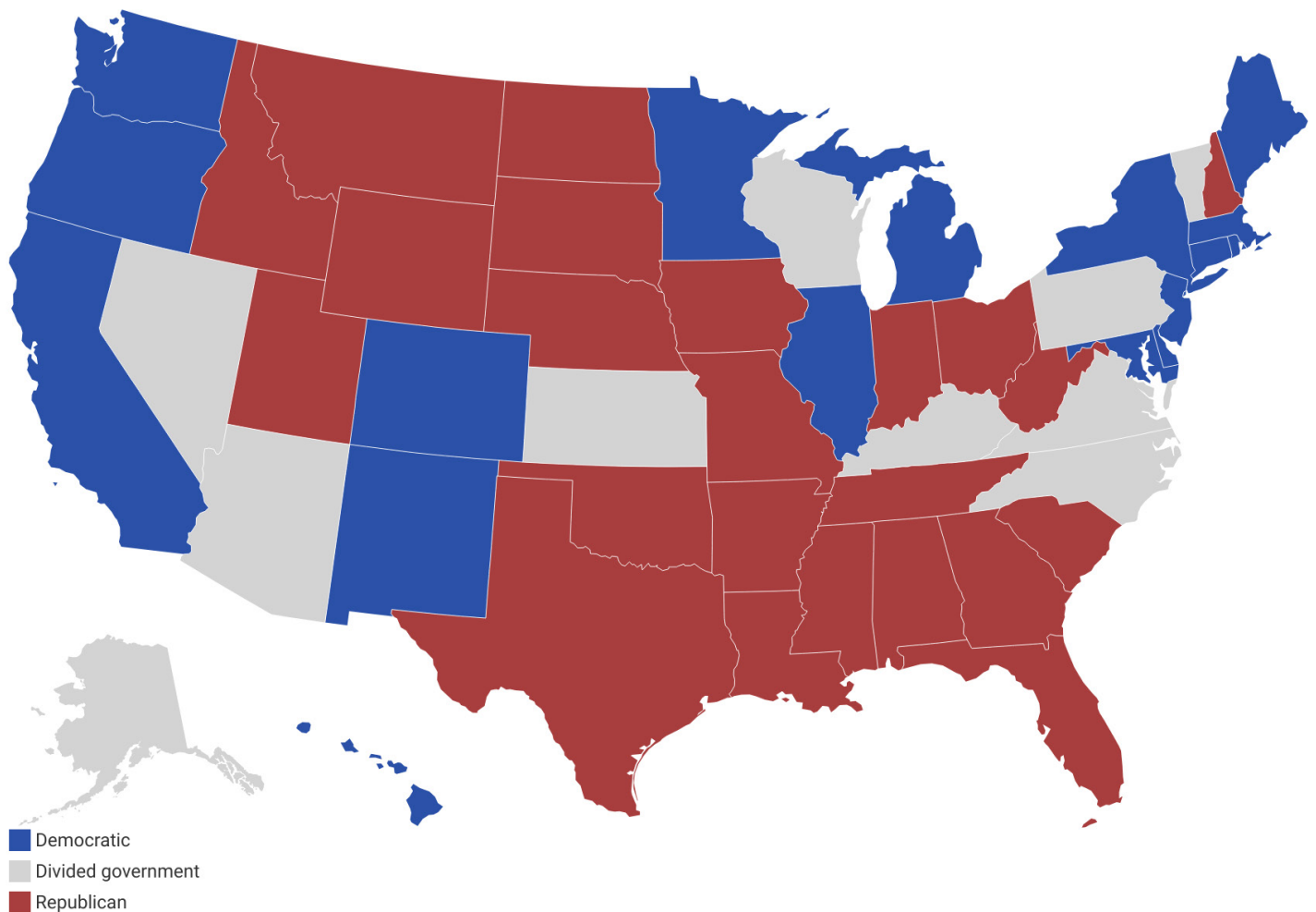
## Trifectas

The political makeup of a state's government affects the state's election policy. State government trifecta is a term to describe single-party government, when one political party holds the governorship and majorities in both chambers of the state legislature. As of June 2024, there are 23 Republican trifectas, 17 Democratic trifectas, and 10 divided governments where neither party holds trifecta control.

This map shows the trifecta status of each state as of June 2024:

### Current state government trifectas

State government trifectas as a result of the 2023 elections.

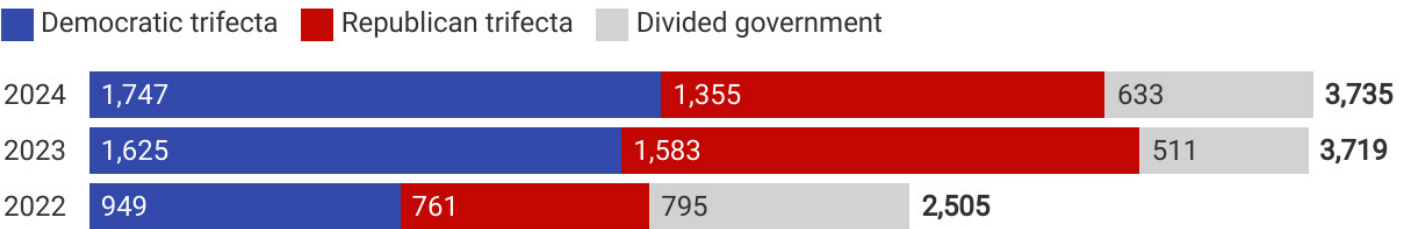


# By the numbers

Ballotpedia has tracked 3,735 election-related bills in 2024, more than in all of 2023. For the third year in a row, states with Democratic trifectas considered more changes to election laws than states with Republican trifectas or divided governments.

## Election-related bills

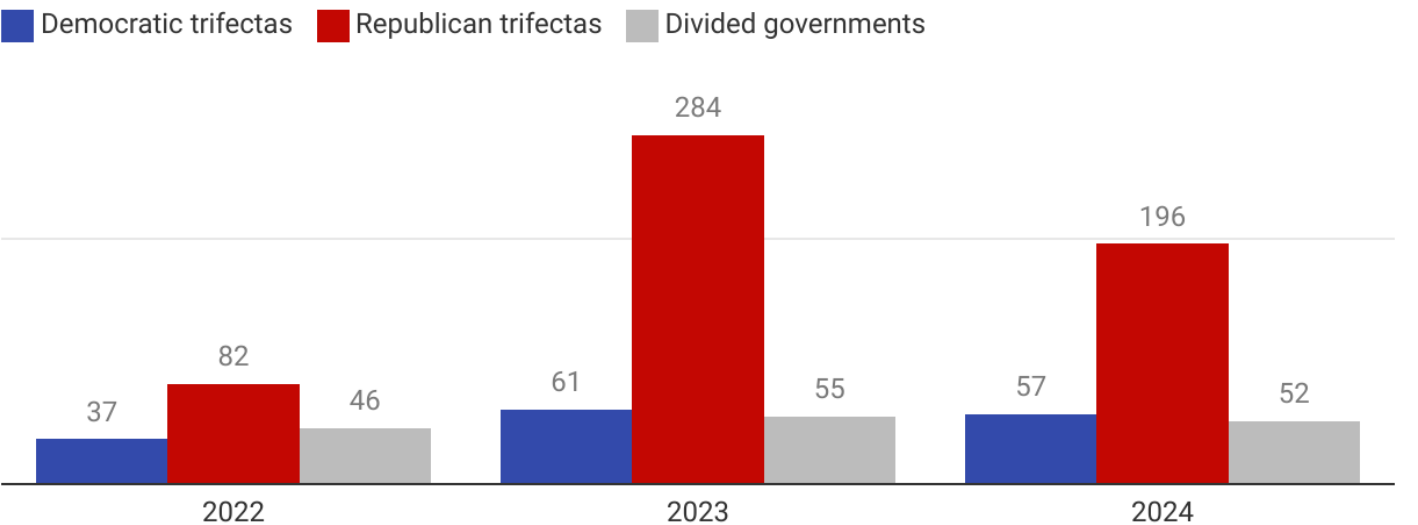
Number of election-related bills introduced by trifecta status by session year, from Jan. 1 to June 6 in 2024, and for the entire year in 2023 and 2022.



States adopted 305 new election laws, less than in the same period last year but more than in 2022.

## Bills passed by trifecta status, year-to-date

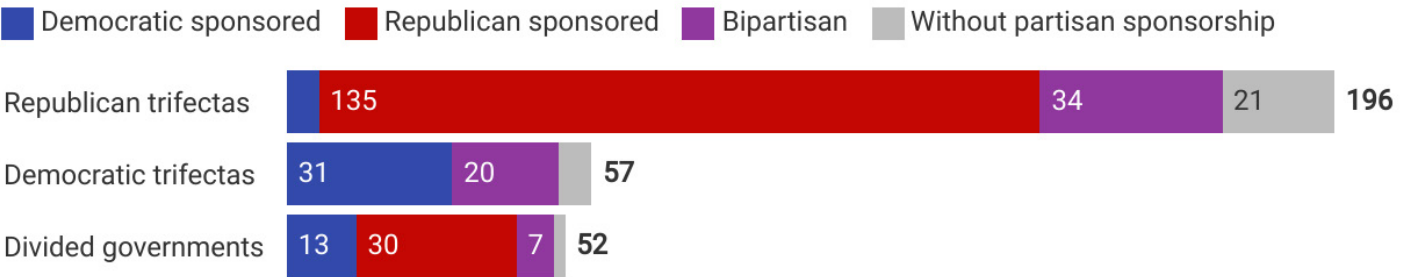
Showing the number of bills passed by trifecta status from Jan. 1 to June 6 in each year 2022-2024.



For the third year in a row, states with Republican trifectas enacted election legislation at a higher rate (14.5%, 196 bills) than Democratic trifecta states (3.3%, 50). States with divided governments have adopted 8.4% of election bills (52) this year. That is despite three states with Republican trifectas—Texas, Montana, and North Dakota—not holding a session this year. One other state—Nevada, which has a divided government—also does not convene during even years.

## Enacted election-related legislation by trifecta and bill sponsorship

Showing the number of election-related bills adopted by Democratic trifectas, Republican trifectas, and states with divided governments by the partisan sponsorship of each bill, year-to-date as of June 6, 2024.



The most common topics of introduced bills and year-on-year changes in these categories were:

- **Municipal election procedures** - 378 bills tracked in 2024, +12.2% compared to 2023
- **Voter registration** - 362, +1.7%
- **Ballot access for candidates** - 278, -16.8%
- **In-person voting and polling places** - 238, -2.1%
- **Ballot measures and initiatives** - 237, +7.8%
- **Vacancy procedures** - 221, +24.2%
- **Absentee/mail-in ballot administration** - 215, -17.3%
- **Administrative deadlines** - 204, +13.3%
- **Offices up for election** - 193, +370.7%
- **Counting and canvassing procedures** - 169, -30.2%
- **Voter list maintenance** - 169, -12%
- **Oversight & accountability** - 167, +60.5%
- **Elections in specific jurisdictions** - 164, +74.5%
- **Enforcement against non-officials** - 162, +21%

**Note:** Our list of bill categories has evolved since we launched the legislation tracker in 2022. Generally, we have not applied tags retroactively to bills in previous sessions. To learn more about Ballotpedia’s election-related legislation topic categories, [see here](#).

# New laws

Tennessee was the most active state, adopting 36 new laws, followed by Georgia with 33. Both states have Republican trifectas. The most active state with a Democratic trifecta was Maryland, with 10 new laws. Virginia adopted the most bills, 25, out of any state with a divided government.

## Top-10 most active states

Ranked by number of election-related bills adopted from Jan 1. to June 6, 2024.

	State	Enacted bills	Trifecta
1	Tennessee	36	R
2	Georgia	33	R
3	Virginia	25	Div.
4	Louisiana	19	R
5	Idaho	14	R
6	South Carolina	14	R
7	Utah	13	R
8	West Virginia	12	R
9	South Dakota	11	R
10	Maryland	10	D

The most common topics of enacted bills and year-on-year changes for the same period in these categories were:

- **Municipal election procedures** - 64 enacted bills, +25.5% compared to last year
- **Elections in specific jurisdictions** - 54, +25.6%
- **Vacancy procedures** - 43, +13.2%
- **Offices up for election** - 38, +245.5%
- **Ballot access for candidates** - 34, -15%
- **Administrative deadlines** - 24, -20%
- **Election dates** - 23, -60.3%
- **Election officials** - 22, +46.7%
- **Presidential elections** - 20, +66.7%
- **Enforcement against non-officials** - 19, -29.6%



# State highlights

## Concentration of new election laws

Showing the total number of new election laws in each state. States are shaded based on trifecta status and the total number of new laws, with a darker shade indicating a larger number.

New election laws in:

### Democratic trifectas

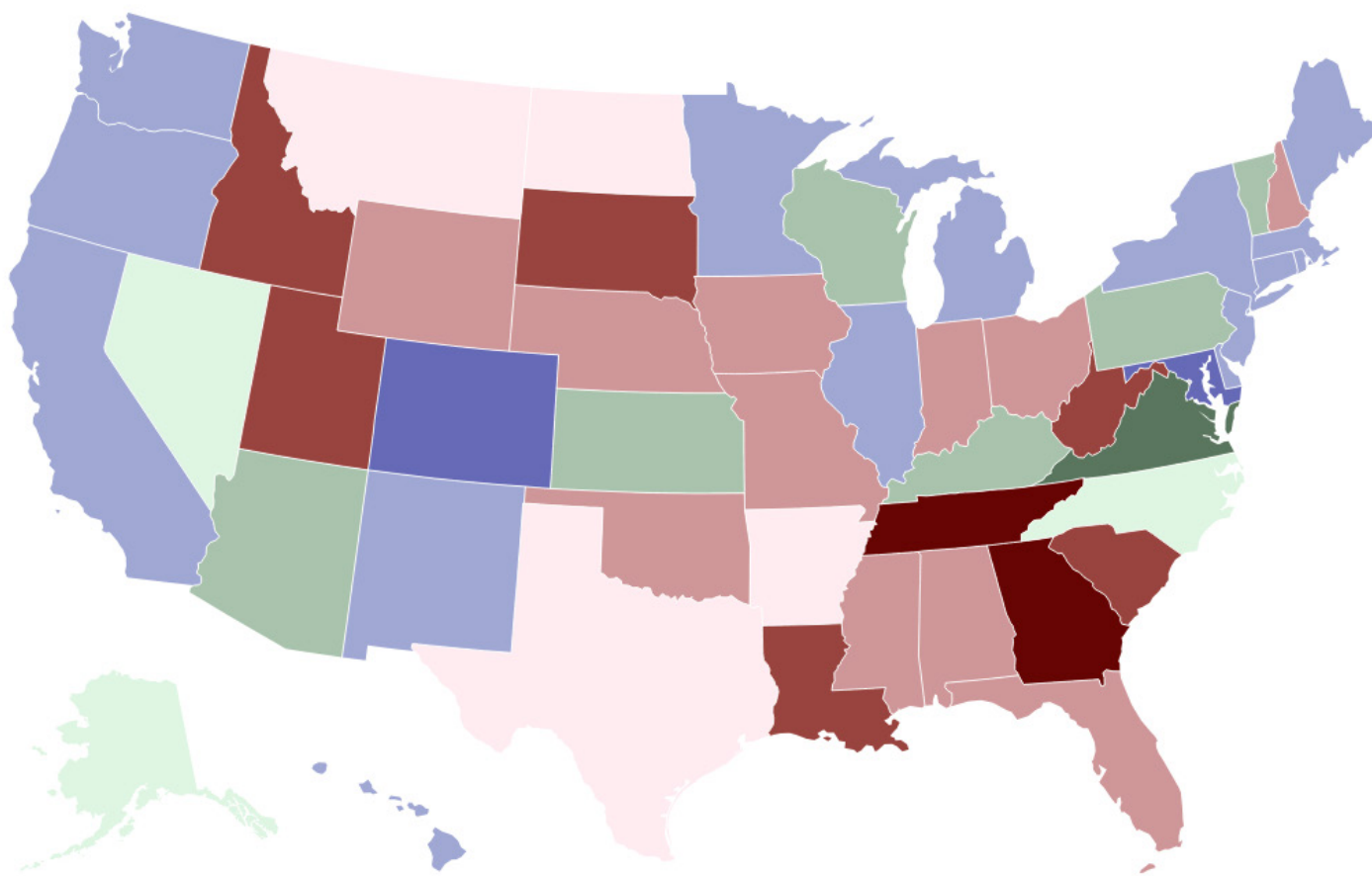
0 1 - 10 6 - 10

### Republican trifectas

0 1 - 10 10 - 20 20 +

### Divided government

0 1 - 10 10 - 20



Below are some highlights from the most active state of each trifecta status by the number of election-related bills enacted:

## Tennessee (Republican trifecta)

In Tennessee, lawmakers adopted 36 bills, including changes to state voter roll maintenance laws, absentee/mail-in ballot deadlines, and new rules for voter registration drives.

- [HB 835](#) / [SB 137](#) requires election officials to compare the statewide voter registration database with the department of safety database to ensure noncitizens are not registered to vote. Officials were previously allowed, but not required, to compare the databases.
- [HB 2294](#) / [SB 1967](#) changes the deadline to request an absentee/main-in ballot from seven to 10 days before an election. Tennessee [requires an excuse](#) to request an absentee ballot.
- [HB 1955](#) / [SB 2586](#) prohibits the pre-filling of information on a voter registration application and makes it a crime for anyone convicted of a felony to handle another voter's application.

Tennessee legislators also adopted the [Uniform Faithful Presidential Electors Act](#) which requires presidential electors and alternates to vote for their party's candidate, or otherwise be replaced as electors. Eleven other states have adopted similar laws since 2011.

## Georgia (Republican trifecta)

Included among Georgia's 33 new election laws are changes to voter registration challenges, a new deadline for counting absentee/mail-in ballots, new requirements for poll workers, rules for poll observers, and a new system for posting images of voted ballots.

- [SB 189](#) is an omnibus elections bill that removed the secretary of state from the state election board, allows election officials to remove a voter from registration rolls up to 45 days before an election, requires all absentee ballots to be counted by one hour after polls close on election day, and changed a definition of probable cause for a voter registration challenge. It also included a provision allowing a political party that has obtained presidential elector ballot access in at least 20 states or territories to qualify for the general election ballot in Georgia.
- [HB 1207](#) requires all election officials and poll workers to be U.S. citizens, and grants poll watchers access to polling places, advance voting locations, tabulation centers, and absentee ballot processing locations, and stipulates that they are entitled to observe any activity conducted at these locations.
- [HB 974](#) requires watermarks on absentee ballots, establishes a pilot program to scan and publicly post images of all voted ballots on the secretary of state's website, and expands post-election risk-limiting audit requirements.

The majority of the remaining new laws only impact election procedures in specific jurisdictions within the state, such as [new election procedures](#) for council members in a city, or [changes](#) to a county board of elections.

## Virginia (Divided government)

In Virginia, lawmakers adopted legislation related to voting while incarcerated, increasing protections for election officials and workers, faithful presidential electors, and new requirements for the state's elections website.

- [HB 1330](#) stipulates that a registered voter incarcerated for a misdemeanor, or awaiting trial related to a misdemeanor conviction, has the right to vote an absentee/mail-in ballot, and if they are incarcerated after the deadline to request a ballot, then the institution or facility in which an individual is confined must provide transportation to the appropriate polling location.
- [HB 943](#) / [SB 364](#) adds current and former election workers, officials, and presidential electors to the list of protected voters who may choose to provide a P.O. box in lieu of a personal address for voter registration. The bill also increases penalties for threats and intimidation made against these individuals.
- [HB 111](#), a version of the Uniform Faithful Presidential Electors Act, requires all nominated presidential electors to be U.S. citizens, state residents, and to take an oath that they will vote for their party's candidate for U.S. President and Vice President. It also provides for a new method for replacing withdrawn or otherwise vacant presidential elector positions.
- [HB 989](#) established new requirements for the state's Department of Elections' website, including that the website be translated into a number of languages set by standards elsewhere in state law, and that the website provide a list of candidates, constitutional amendments, and statewide referenda for all elections in the state.

Republican Governor [Glenn Youngkin](#) (R) vetoed a number of other election bills passed by the Democratic-controlled legislature, including:

- [SB 606](#), which would have required the state to reapply to join the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC), a voter list maintenance compact. Virginia was a founding member of ERIC in 2012 but resigned in 2023.
- [HB 904](#) / [SB 300](#), which would have required the Department of Elections to keep a record of cancellation of a voter's registration for four years, instead of two, and would have created new security standards for state and county voter registration systems.
- [SB 428](#), which would have established new counting, tabulation, and certification procedures for ranked-choice voting (RCV) elections in Virginia. [According](#) to the bill's sponsor, "The bill made a series of changes the Department [of Elections] asked for to ensure for a smoother and more legally sound process for ranked-choice voting."

In total, Youngkin [vetoed](#) 13 election-related bills.

## Arizona (Divided government)

In Arizona, new laws change the deadline for certifying elections, modify rules for hand-counted post-election audits, and add new notification requirements if a voter's registration is changed.

- [HB 2785](#) moved up the statewide primary date by one week in response to changing federal deadlines and instituted a new schedule for canvassing boards to meet and certify election results depending on the type and the level of the election. The new law

requires canvassing boards to meet not later than the third Thursday after a general election, and not later than the second Monday after a primary election. Previously, canvassing boards were required to canvass and certify election results between 6-20 days after an election. The bill also shortens the amount of time an election official has to verify a provisional ballot to five days (instead of ten) after a federal-level election and three days (instead of five) for other elections.

- [SB 1342](#) created new rules for hand counts required by the state's post-election audit law. The new rules provide that political party designees will be compensated to perform a hand count under the supervision of the county election officer, and prohibit 75% of those conducting the hand count from being members of the same political party.
- [HB 2484](#) requires county election officials to notify a voter of any change to his or her registration record within 24 hours, including by text or email if possible. The notice must include instructions on how a voter can update their registration or contact the county official if the voter did not request or authorize any change.

Governor [Katie Hobbs](#) (D) also vetoed [seven bills](#) passed by the Republican controlled legislature. [One](#) of those bills would have made [school board elections partisan](#), and [another](#) would have banned election officials from sending voter registration cards to anyone who's mailing address is not in the state. As of June 2024, school board elections are partisan in four states, while five other states allow school districts to choose whether their elections are partisan.

Arizona voters will also decide on an [LRCA](#) this November that would require partisan primaries for partisan elected offices and prohibit primaries where all candidates, regardless of affiliation, run together, such as top-two and top-four primaries. Lawmakers referred the measure during the 2023 legislative session.

## Maryland (Democratic trifecta)

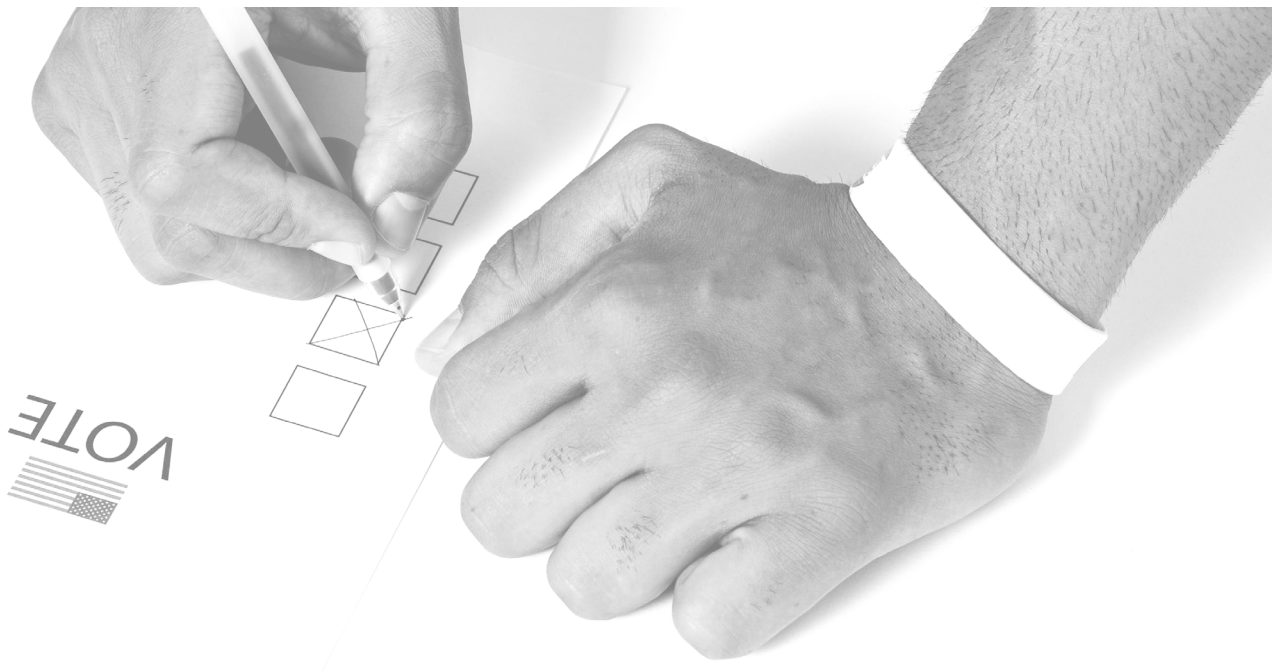
In Maryland, lawmakers passed bills expanding protections for election officials and created a portal intended to address election misinformation. They also adopted a new law modifying post-election canvassing procedures, including a process to investigate election errors and new rules to handle dissent among boards of canvassers.

- [HB 585 / SB 480](#), the Protecting Election Officials Act, makes threatening an election official of their immediate family a crime punishable by up to three years in prison. The act also expands these and existing protections to the counsel to the State Board of Elections, counsel to local boards of election, and their families.
- [HB 333](#) defines election disinformation as “knowingly and deliberately disseminated,” and misinformation as “incorrect or misleading information regarding the time, place, or manner of an election, election results, or voting rights in the state.” It requires the state board of election to maintain a portal for the public to submit instances of election dis- and misinformation, and requires the board to review submissions and issue corrective information as necessary or refer cases to the State Prosecutor.
- [HB 471](#) requires the Board of State Canvassers to convene within 30 days (instead of 35) of an election. It also requires the State Administrator of Elections to investigate an error in election documents or records produced during an election, and adds a provision that directs a dissenting member of a canvassing board to prepare and file a written statement with the local election board explaining their dissent.

## Colorado (Democratic trifecta)

In Colorado, legislators adopted an omnibus bill that changes a number of areas of election law and lays out new requirements related to the adoption of RCV, as well as legislation related to voting in detention centers, presidential electors, and firearms near polling locations and election centers.

- **SB 210** lowered the age for voter preregistration from 16 to 15 years old and eliminated the ability for 17-year-olds to vote in primary elections if they will be 18 at the time of the general election. It also required drop boxes on college campuses with at least 1,000 students (instead of 2,000), and made various other technical changes that supporters of the bill [described](#) as a clean up of state election laws. The bill also requires that 12 counties of varying sizes and demographic profiles adopt and use RCV before it can be used for statewide elections. In some instances, the bill requires jurisdictions with a certain number of voters “who speak English less than very well” to adopt RCV before it may be adopted elsewhere. For more on the RCV portion of the bill, see [here](#).
- **SB 72** provides access to in-person early voting to eligible voters in county jails for at least six hours on one business day between 4-15 days before Election Day. The new law also requires sheriffs to designate at least one person to facilitate voting at each county jail or detention center, and provides for training and technical assistance for this designee.
- **HB 1150** addresses several aspects of the presidential elector process and adds criminal penalties for falsely submitting a list of presidential electors, knowingly voting as a false presidential elector, and knowingly voting as a presidential elector for candidates who did not receive the highest number of votes.
- **SB 131** modified rules for firearms in and near polling and tabulation locations. The new law prohibits the possession of a firearm within 100 feet of a voting, ballot counting, or ballot drop off location, instead of only prohibiting openly carried firearms at these locations. The legislation made an exception for property owners whose property is within 100 feet of these locations.





# Omnibus bills and other notable state activity

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States that adopt a relatively small number of election-related bills still may make important or notable changes to law. States that adopted omnibus elections bills, defined as bills with five or more topic tags that change various areas of law, or that otherwise adopted notable election-related legislation include:

## Indiana (Republican trifecta)

Indiana Gov. [Eric Holcomb](#) (R) signed [HB 1264](#) into law on March 11, an omnibus elections bill that supporters [framed](#) as bolstering election security in the state.

The bill requires election officials to compare registration information with Bureau of Motor Vehicles data to identify any registered voters who may not be U.S. citizens. If a registered voter is identified as a noncitizen, they will be notified by election officials, and have 30 days to provide proof of citizenship or they are removed from voter rolls. It also permits election officials to obtain commercially available data from a credit agency for voter address verification purposes.

The bill also amends an existing ban on the use of private funding for election administration to prohibit any jurisdiction in the state from participating in a nongovernmental program, or from joining an organization, that has directly financed the administration of elections or employs people on a temporary basis for conducting, preparing, or administering elections.

The legislation also newly requires certain voters to present photo identification at the time of registration.

For a complete summary of HB 1264, see [here](#). See [here](#) for more new laws from Indiana this year.

## Minnesota (Democratic trifecta)

Minnesota Gov. [Tim Walz](#) (D) signed [HF 4772](#), the Minnesota Voting Rights Act, into law on May 17. Minnesota is the [seventh](#) state to adopt what the [Campaign Legal Center](#) called a state-level voting rights act. All seven states to adopt such a law did so with a Democratic trifecta.

The new law requires election laws in the states be broadly applied in favor of a voter's right to vote, [saying](#): "A law, rule, local law, charter provision, local ordinance, or local code relating to the right to vote, or which grants authority to prescribe or maintain voting or elections policies and practices, must be construed or applied liberally in favor of a voter's exercise of the right of suffrage."

It codifies a ban on political subdivisions adopting any qualifications or rules that may suppress the right to vote, or that may dilute the vote of members of a protected class, and provides for a private right of action that allows citizens to bring civil suits for violations.

The legislation changes how incarcerated individuals are factored into population counts after a federal decennial census, requiring those individuals be allocated to their last known address instead of the location of their incarceration.

It also changes state rules governing contested election results, granting the state supreme court

jurisdiction over such cases, providing for the appointment of inspectors, and adopting new rules for preserving and counting ballots in a contest.

The omnibus bill makes a number of other changes to law, including modifying procedures for filling vacancies in school boards, sheriff, and county attorneys, and expanding an existing prohibition on the use of deepfakes to apply to primaries, nominating conventions, and the early and absentee/mail-in voting period.

For a complete summary of changes made by the bill, see [here](#).

## Iowa (Republican trifecta)

Iowa Gov. [Kim Reynolds](#) (R) signed [HF 2466](#) into law on May 8.

The bill expanded training requirements for poll workers in the state and established a new statewide poll worker training program.

It also changes requirements related to certification by county election commissioners. The new law requires officials to certify that their county met requirements including testing of voting equipment, training of personnel, and polling place accessibility, by 20 days after each election. Previously, this certification was required only after general elections. The legislation also included changes to pre-election certification, including a requirement that county officials certify the date, time, and location of voting equipment testing, election notices, and training courses.

The legislation also eliminated an option to return an absentee/mail-in ballot by mail when a person designated by the voter picks up a ballot from the voter for return. The ballot now must be delivered by the designee to a county commissioner's office within 72 hours or before polls close, whichever is earlier.

## Washington (Democratic trifecta)

Washington adopted several changes to elections laws including a new method for curing ballots with a defect, a voter identification pilot program, and a bill related to election interference and voting system cybersecurity.

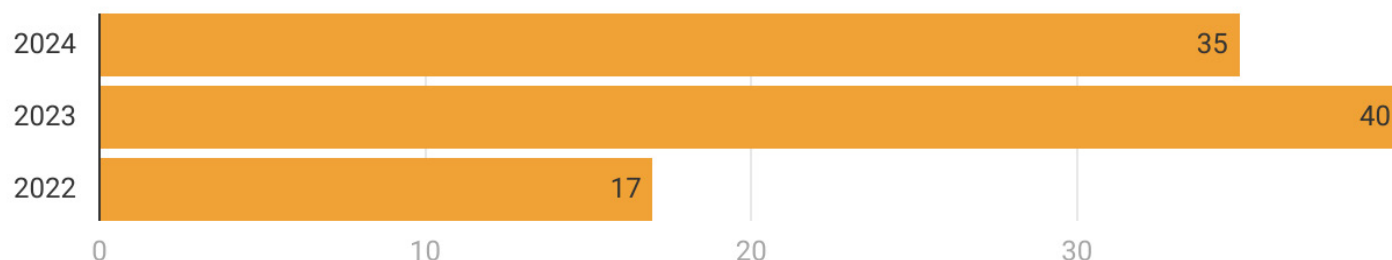
- [SB 5890](#) changed ballot curing laws, including allowing a voter five days, instead of three, to respond and correct an unsigned ballot declaration or unmatched signature. It also requires election officials to contact a voter by phone, text, or email to cure a ballot defect, and requires the secretary of state to periodically review and update signature verification standards.
- [SB 6269](#) created a pilot program for counties to explore new identity verification procedures for voted ballots. Under current law, election officials verify a voter's identity through signature matching. Counties must apply to participate in the pilot program, which must be limited to a special election held on a single date. A county that wishes to participate more than once must submit multiple applications. The legislation requires the secretary of state to deliver annual reports on the pilot program to the governor and legislature, and to deliver a final report by the end of 2028.
- [SB 5843](#) created new penalties for election interference, new election-related cybersecurity disclosure requirements, and mandates that counties install and maintain a cybersecurity intrusion detection system.

# Veto and veto overrides

Governors vetoed nearly as many bills in the first half of this year as all of 2023, and more than all of 2022. All but 5 of this year's vetoed came from states with divided government, including 13 from Gov. Glenn Youngkin (R) in Virginia, eight by Wisconsin Gov. [Tony Evers](#) (D), and seven from Gov. Katie Hobbs (D) in Arizona.

## Veto of election-related legislation, 2022-2024

Showing the number of vetoed election bills each year 2022-2024, through June 6, 2024.



Gov. [Gavin Newsom](#) (D) vetoed two bills related to independent redistricting in Los Angeles, while one bill was vetoed in three states with Republican trifectas—Louisiana, Mississippi, and Oklahoma.

In Louisiana, Gov. [Jeff Landry](#) (R) vetoed [SB 96](#), which would have allowed eligible voters without internet access to complete an electronic voter registration application in-person at the registrar's office in their parish. The bill passed both chambers of the legislature unanimously. In his veto message, Landry [said](#): "I believe current law adequately allows voters with a Louisiana driver's license or special identification card to register online, without making these additional exceptions."

In Mississippi, Gov. [Tate Reeves](#) (R) vetoed [HB 922](#), which would have made county election commissioners a nonpartisan office, instead of a partisan elected office. The bill passed with bipartisan support. In a veto message, Reeves said that the bill would have violated the First Amendment rights of political parties and [concluded](#): "(w)hile I do not believe it was the intention of the members of the Mississippi Legislature who voted in favor of House Bill 922 to infringe upon the constitutional rights of political parties, I am compelled to veto House Bill 922 to protect such fundamental rights and avoid the litigation it will inevitably generate."

In Oklahoma, Gov. [Kevin Stitt](#) (R) vetoed [SB 1196](#), a bill that would have allowed cabinet secretaries to hold leadership positions in state agencies. The bill relates to an [ongoing dispute](#) about the legality of holding dual offices in the state. Several members of Stitt's cabinet also hold agency or other state leadership positions. Despite the bill ostensibly supporting Stitt's position in the dispute, he issued a veto, [saying](#): "This legislation is unnecessary because the law is already clear: The Governor can choose his cabinet from among the agency directors."

Elsewhere, lawmakers in Kentucky overrode three vetoes by Gov. [Andy Beshear](#) (D), adopting a [new law](#) banning RCV, and [another](#) that removed the governor's authority to fill U.S. Senate vacancies. Kentucky is one of three states with a Democratic governor and a [veto-proof](#) Republican-controlled legislature.

# Topics of note

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The landscape of election policy is vast. With 50 systems for administering elections in 50 states, legislation in each state necessarily responds to the unique needs of election administrators and the election systems in each locality. Nonetheless, the challenges, and vision for the future development of election administration are often shared across states or among groups of states.

Whether considering a change to electoral systems, such as opening or closing primaries, or preempting one, like banning [RCV](#), Ballotpedia has tracked a number of policy subsets that drew attention from lawmakers around the country:

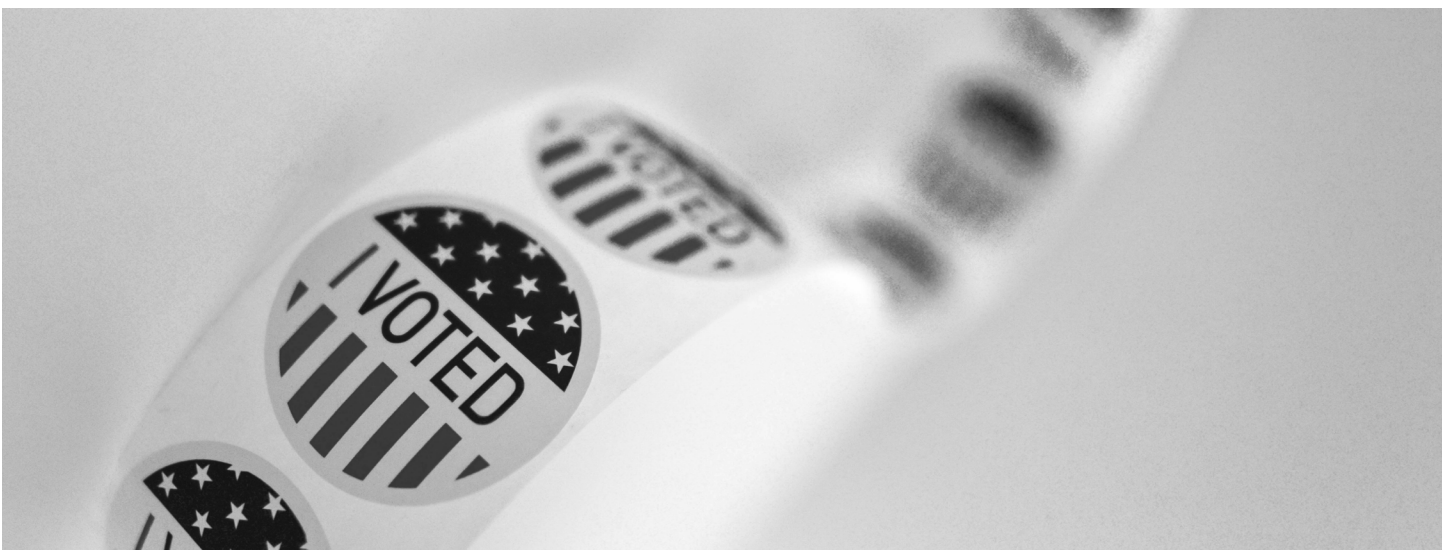
## Ranked-choice voting (RCV)

Five states—[Alabama](#), [Kentucky](#), [Louisiana](#), [Mississippi](#), and [Oklahoma](#)—passed laws banning the use of RCV, more than in any other year.

No state had a law prohibiting the use of RCV before 2022 when Florida and Tennessee became the first states to adopt bans. Idaho, Montana, and South Dakota joined them in 2023. Republicans controlled the legislature in all ten states to have passed an RCV ban.

A sixth state, [Missouri](#), passed a [legislatively referred constitutional amendment](#) creating a ballot measure at November's election that will ask voters to decide whether to ban RCV. In addition to Missouri, voters in at least three other states will decide on ballot measures related to RCV this November. In [Alaska](#), voters will consider repealing the use of RCV for statewide and legislative elections, while in [Nevada](#) and [Oregon](#) voters will decide whether to adopt RCV for certain elections.

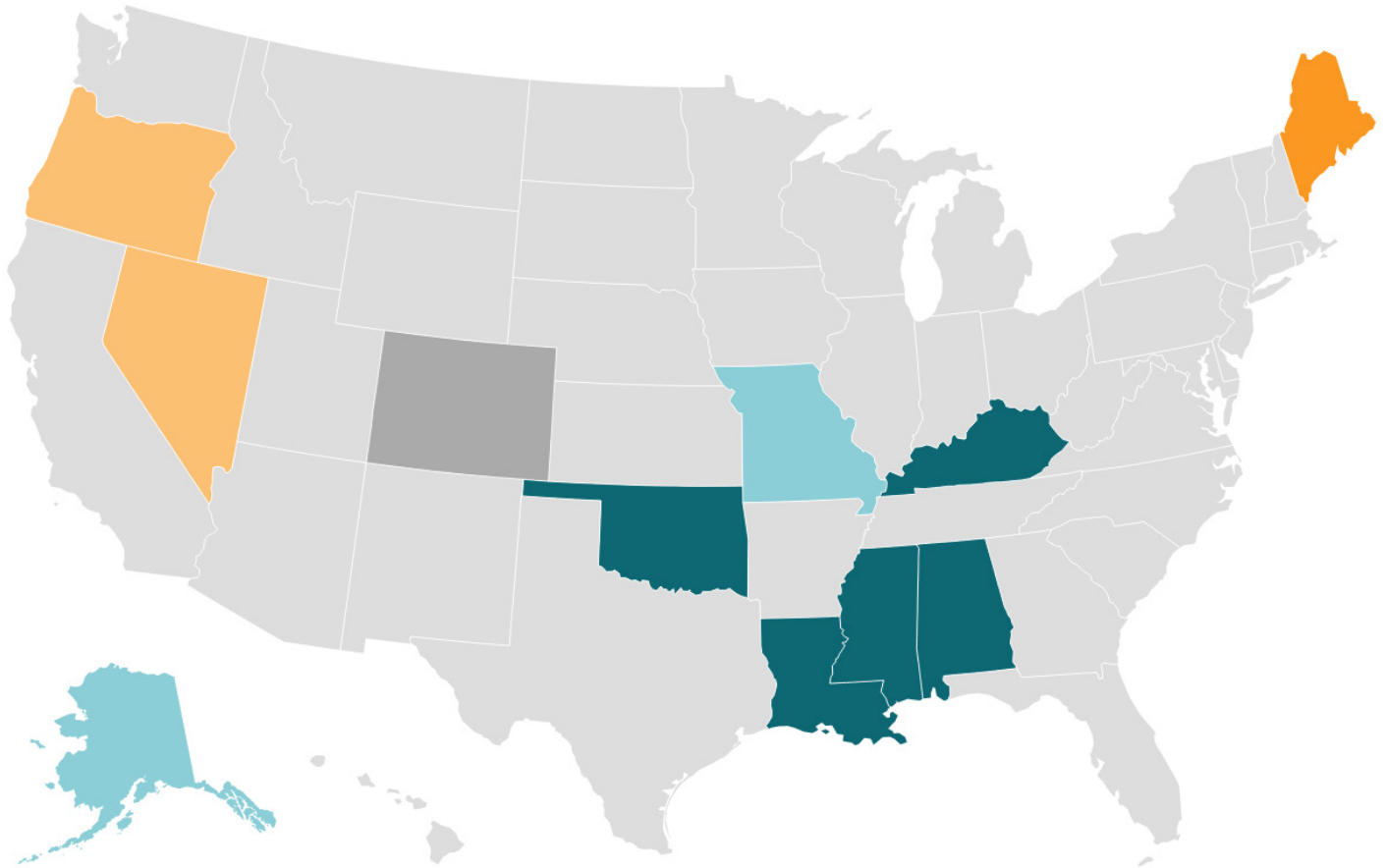
Only one state enacted a law authorizing a new use of RCV this year. Maine adopted [LD 1578](#) which makes Maine a member of the [National Popular Vote Interstate Compact](#) and requires the use of RCV for presidential elections if the compact ever takes effect.



## New RCV laws and 2024 ballot measures

Showing all states that have adopted an RCV law or will vote on an RCV ballot measure in November, as of June 6, 2024.

Authorized new use of RCV   Ballot measure: adopt RCV for some elections   Change to RCV laws  
Ballot measure: ban or repeal RCV   Banned RCV



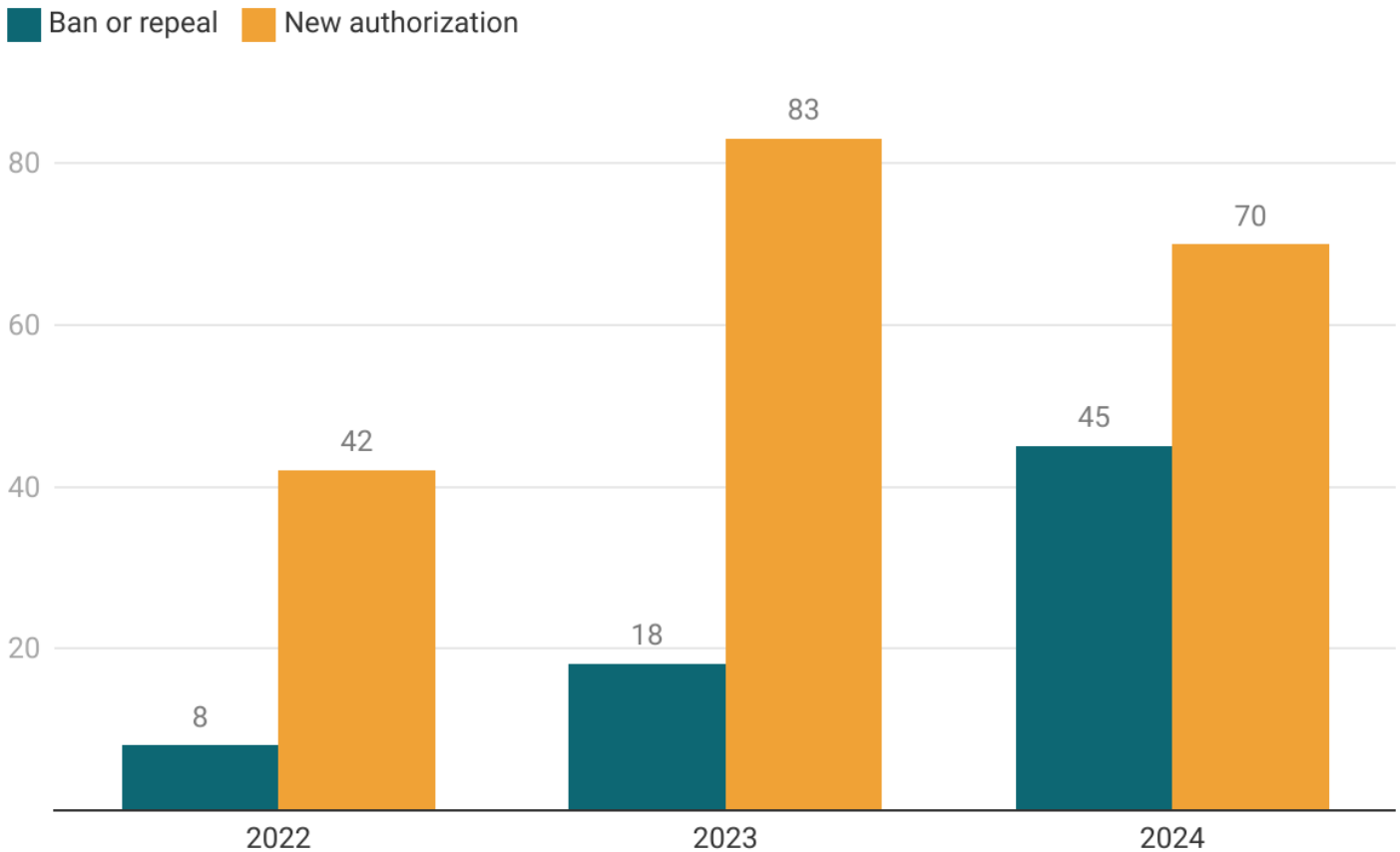
In Colorado, Governor [Jared Polis](#) (D) signed [SB 210](#), an omnibus elections bill that makes changes to several areas of election law, including adding provisions to state law that would make it more difficult to adopt RCV in statewide elections. The section of the bill related to RCV was added to the bill near the end of the state’s legislative session, and Polis said he did not approve of those portions but would sign the bill because it contained provisions to strengthen trust and security in elections.

Colorado may vote on a constitutional amendment to adopt RCV for some statewide elections in November. SB 210 would likely delay implementation of the electoral system if that ballot measure were to pass. In that case, Polis [said](#) he would “map out a process for implementing this initiative as soon as practicable with my commitment to full implementation by the 2028 election cycle.” Read more about SB 210 and the Colorado ballot measure [here](#).



## RCV legislation by bill type 2022-2024

Showing the number of RCV bills introduced in state legislatures from 2022-2024 by bill type, as of June 6, 2024.



In total, 45 bills introduced in 20 states this year would ban or repeal RCV, nearly double the number from 2023 and 2022 combined. In all three years, bans and repeals were adopted at a higher rate than new authorizations. In other words, there have been more RCV bans adopted in the last three years than new authorizations, despite half as many introduced bills.

## Voter list maintenance

Thirteen states adopted new laws related to maintaining accurate voter registration rolls, also known as voter list maintenance. Ten of these bills came from states with Republican trifectas, two from states with divided governments, and one from a state with a Democratic trifecta.

New laws in five states establish new data sharing procedures, or new requirements for reviewing available data from various state agencies or third-party sources to identify ineligible voters and remove them from registration lists.

- In Indiana, [HB 1265](#) requires a state to review registration records at least once per year and identify those that do not contain a birth date, or contain a birth date making the voter 115 years old or older, and to send those identified names to the local officials for review. Indiana also enacted [HB 1264](#), discussed [above](#), which permits election officials to obtain

commercially available data from a credit agency for voter address verification purposes and establishes a new verification procedure for voters identified as noncitizens by election officials.

- In Kentucky, [HB 580](#) authorizes the State Board of Elections to enter into agreements with other governmental agencies for voter list maintenance purposes. [HB 44](#) requires the secretary of state to deliver, and publish publicly, an annual report on voter registration cleanup activity to the legislature.
- As part of Minnesota's Voting Rights Act, [HF 4772](#) creates a new requirement for the secretary of state to identify deceased voters using the Social Security Death Index.
- In South Dakota, [SB 18](#) allows the secretary of state to share information from the statewide voter registration file with any other state, territory, or locality to identify duplicate registrations. Any agreement must provide that personally identifiable information cannot be shared or sold to any person who is not an election official in the jurisdiction.
- West Virginia's [SB 624](#) directs county clerks to cancel the voter registration records of voters who are no longer West Virginia citizens and who, according to the DMV, have obtained a driver's license in another state.

Louisiana adopted two bills that change address verification laws. [HB 114](#) requires the Department of State to develop an address confirmation notice that includes prepaid postage, a pre-addressed return envelope, and information about the voter's rights. It also creates an annual sweep for inactive voters and describes these voters as those who have failed to engage in a voting activity for ten years, including voting, requesting an absentee ballot, updating registration, and signing a petition. [HB 677](#) eliminates a requirement that election registrars must confirm a voter's death with the office of vital records in order to cancel their voter registration file.

Elsewhere, bills in three states with Democratic trifectas that would require application to the [Electronic Registration Information Center](#) (ERIC) have advanced, but not been adopted. In Hawaii, [SB 2240](#) has passed both chambers of the legislature but awaits action by Gov. [Josh Green](#) (D). The bill that requires the state's Office of Elections to submit an application to join the ERIC by June 30, 2025. Similar bills have passed one chamber in [California](#) and [New York](#).

As of June 2024, 24 states were members in ERIC, including 14 Democratic trifectas, seven states with divided governments, and three states with Republican trifectas. Eight states have [resigned](#) from ERIC since 2021, including nine states with Republican trifectas and one state with a divided government.

One bill that would have required application to ERIC was vetoed this year, Virginia's [HB 1177](#) / [SB 606](#). Virginia was a founding member of ERIC in 2012 but resigned in 2023. In his veto message, Gov. Youngkin [said](#), "Since leaving ERIC, Virginia established data-sharing agreements with numerous states incurring no additional costs."

## Noncitizen voting

As of June 11, eight states, including six with Republican trifectas, have enacted legislation related to the eligibility of noncitizens to vote.

In Louisiana, [SB 436](#) requires proof of citizenship for voter registration applications. In 2022, Louisiana voters approved a [ballot measure](#) amending the state constitution to prohibit noncitizens

from voting or registering to vote.

Four states referred constitutional amendments to voters to decide whether to add a prohibition on noncitizens voting to their state constitutions.

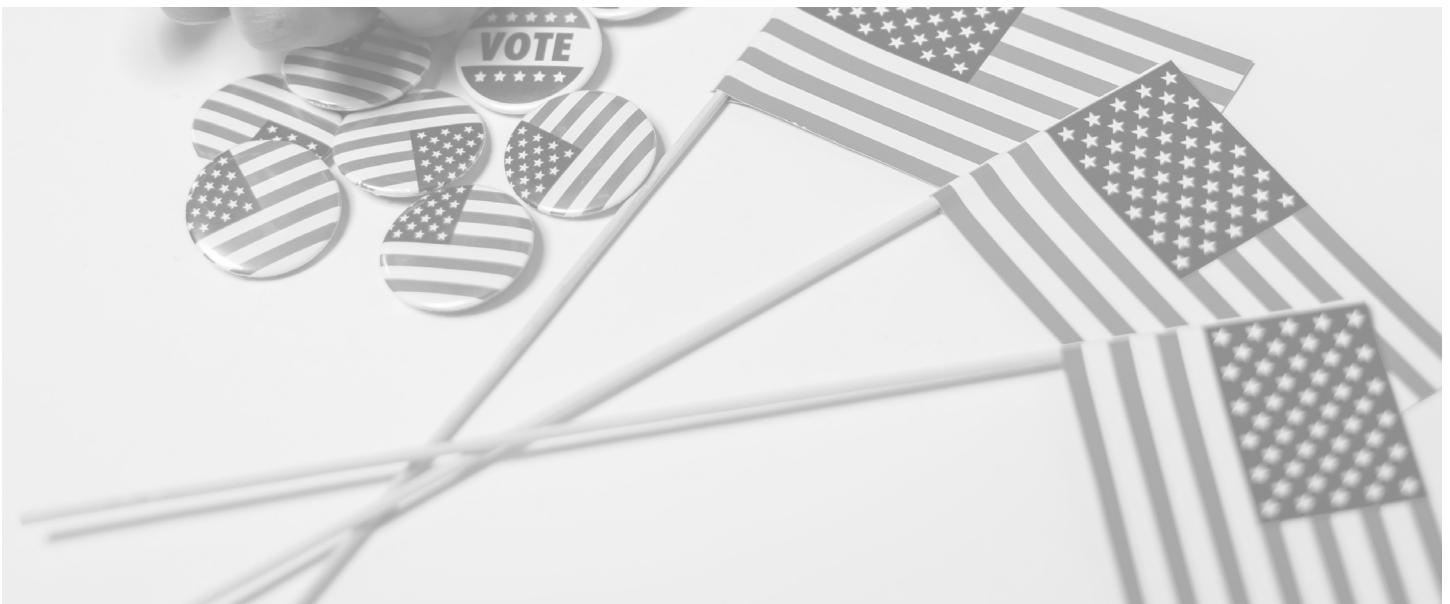
- Idaho lawmakers passed [HJR 5](#), which created the [Idaho Citizenship Requirement for Voting Amendment](#) which will appear on the ballot as an LRCA at the November election.
- Kentucky lawmakers referred the [Kentucky Citizenship Requirement for Voting Amendment](#) to voters by overriding Gov. Beshear’s (D) veto of [SB 143](#).
- Missouri lawmakers passed [SJR 78](#) creating the [Missouri Require Citizenship to Vote and Prohibit Ranked-Choice Voting Amendment](#).
- South Carolina legislators referred the [South Carolina Citizenship Requirement for Voting Amendment](#) to voters by passing [S 1126](#).
- Voters in two other states—[Iowa](#) and [Wisconsin](#)—will vote on LRCAs this November that lawmakers passed in previous years.

Separately, the [Oklahoma House of Representatives](#) adopted a [resolution](#) supporting “amending the Oklahoma Constitution to require proof of citizenship as a prerequisite for voter registration.”

At least two states—[Indiana](#) and [Tennessee](#)—have adopted new laws to check for, and remove noncitizens while conducting voter list maintenance activities.

The only new law related to noncitizen voting from a state with a Democratic trifecta comes from Minnesota. The state’s new Voting Rights Act, [HF 4772](#), requires that a voter be a U.S. citizen to vote an absentee ballot.

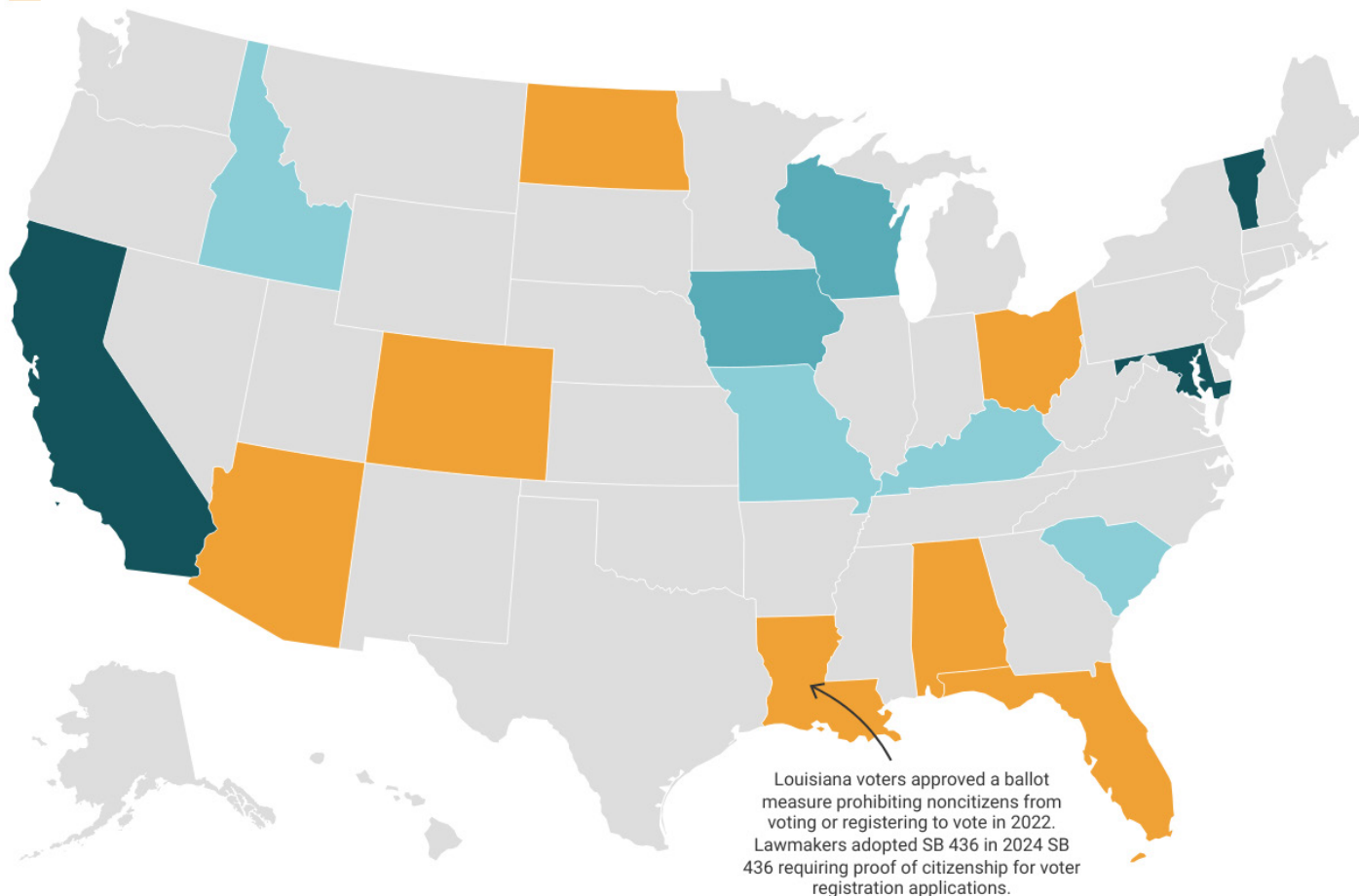
As of June 2024, seven states [explicitly prohibited](#) noncitizen voting in state and local elections while no state constitutions explicitly allowed noncitizens to vote in state or local elections. Since 2018, voters in six states have approved ballot measures related to adding language about citizenship requirements for voting.



# Noncitizen voting in the United States and 2024 ballot measures

The map below indicates which U.S. states allow or prohibit noncitizen voting in elections for state or local offices. It also indicates which states have approved ballot measures prohibiting noncitizen voting and which states will have ballot measures related to noncitizen voting in the 2024 election.

- Ballot measure in 2024, referred in 2024
- Ballot measure in 2024, referred in previous year
- Allow noncitizen voting in state or local elections
- Prohibit noncitizen voting



Under federal [law](#), it is illegal for noncitizens to vote in any federal election, including elections for the [U.S. House](#), [U.S. Senate](#), and [presidential elections](#).

## Protections for election workers & officials

In addition to bills in Virginia, Georgia, and Maryland mentioned [above](#), two states with Republican trifectas adopted laws expanding protections for election officials and workers.

- Alabama's [HB 100](#) increased penalties for crimes committed against an election official, and added such a crime to the list of offenses for which a convicted individual never regains the right to vote.
- Indiana's [SB 170](#) makes knowingly or intentionally interfering with or obstructing an election worker or a voter in the act of voting on Election Day or a day on which voting is permitted a Level 6 felony.

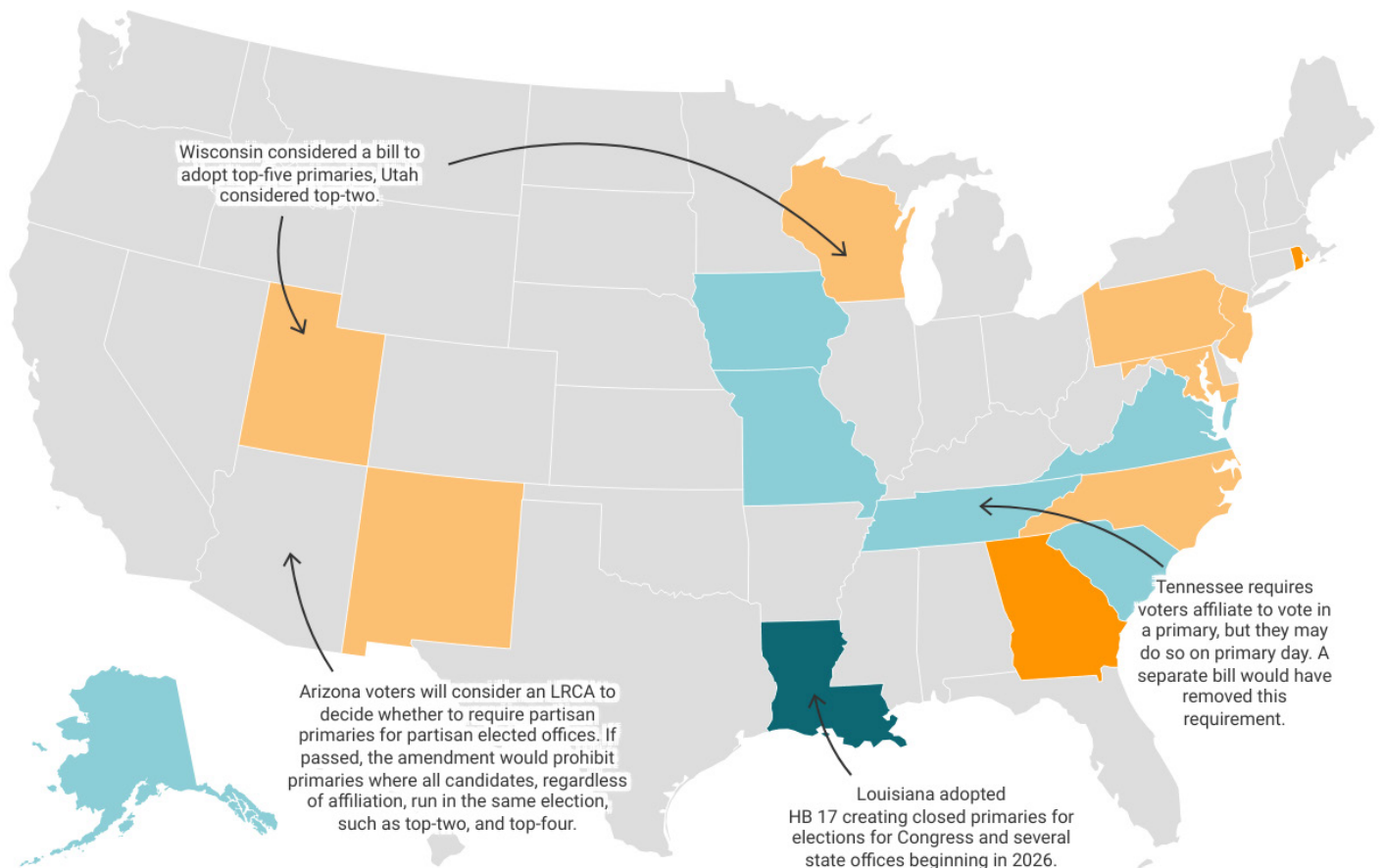
## Primary elections

Lawmakers in 18 states introduced 40 bills that would have changed who may vote in at least some statewide primaries or caucuses. Only one of these bills, Louisiana's [HB 17](#), was adopted. That bill makes changes to [Louisiana's unique primary system](#) and creates closed primaries for elections for Congress and several state offices, including state supreme court, beginning in 2026.

### Legislation to open or close statewide primaries

Showing legislation to make at least some statewide primaries more open or more closed introduced in 2024 legislative sessions, as of June 6.

More open Bill to adopt a general primary More closed More closed (enacted)



While Louisiana moves away from a general primary, two states introduced bills that would move them towards Louisiana's current system, Georgia's [HB 595](#) and Rhode Island's [S 2670](#). Neither bill has advanced.

Bills in two states—[Maryland](#) and [New Jersey](#)—would allow voters to change their affiliation on the day of the primary, effectively creating [open primaries](#). Neither bill has advanced.

Legislation introduced in at least six other states would create more open primaries for at least some offices, including:



- Bills in [Utah](#) and [Wisconsin](#) that would have created a [top-two](#) or top-five primary system;
- Bills in [Pennsylvania](#) and [New Mexico](#) that would open up closed primaries for certain offices, and a bill in [North Carolina](#) that would create open primaries;
- And, a bill in [Tennessee](#) that would have removed a requirement to affiliate with a political party before voting in that party's primary election.

Elsewhere, bills in at least five states would have created more closed primaries:

- Alaska considered three bills that would have repealed the state's open, top-four primary system, including [HB 1](#). Alaska voters will consider repealing the system in a statewide [ballot measure](#) at the November general election.
- Three bills in [Iowa](#) would have required voters to affiliate with a party at different points before an election or caucus to participate. Under current law, voters may change their affiliation at the polls on primary election day. None of these bills passed.
- Missouri's [HB 1410](#) / [SB 1140](#) would have created closed primaries in the state. The bill would require voters to change their affiliation by the 23rd Tuesday before the election to vote in a party's primary. An unaffiliated voter would need to register and affiliate with a party by the fourth Wednesday before a primary to vote in that election.
- South Carolina's [H 3685](#) would have required a voter to be registered as a member of a political party to vote in that party's primary, unless the party decided otherwise. South Carolina has open primaries.
- Tennessee's [HB 1616](#) would have stipulated that a voter may only vote in a primary election when the voter is affiliated with the party according to their voter registration. Currently, Tennessee has open primaries.

Bills in two states, [Kansas](#) and [Virginia](#), would have permitted political parties to decide if unaffiliated voters can participate in their primary each year. Virginia has open primaries, while in Kansas, unaffiliated voters can declare an affiliation with a political party on the day of the election and vote in that party's primary, and previously affiliated voters cannot change their affiliation on the day of the election.

Finally, legislation in two states, [South Dakota](#) and [Tennessee](#), would have required certain types of offices be nominated in primary elections.

## Voter registration

Tennessee joined a group of six other states with Republican trifectas that have adopted laws related to voter registration drives or third-party assistance for voter registration applications since 2020.

Gov. Bill Lee (R) signed [HB 1955](#) / [SB 2586](#) on May 1, prohibiting the pre-filling of information on a voter registration application and making it a crime for anyone convicted of a felony to handle another voter's application. The bill also provides that the date an applicant signs a voter registration application will be assumed to be the date that a person or organization returning a voter registration application received the application. State law requires any person or organization collecting a voter registration form to deliver or mail the form to the county election commission within 15 days.

Other new laws related to voter registration include:

- Arizona's [HB 2482](#) requires the county recorder to notify a voter of any change to his or her registration record within 24 hours and requires the notice to include instructions on how the voter may make revisions to their registration.
- Florida's [H 135](#) directs the state's Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to ensure that a person's party affiliation is not modified in their voter registration without signature and written consent and requires the department to provide a voter with a printed receipt after verifying his or her updated registration information and providing an electronic signature.
- New Jersey [A 3690](#) allows pre-registered voters who are 17 year-olds to vote in a primary election if they will be 18 years old before the next general election.

## Hand counting and voting equipment

Several states considered legislation related to voting equipment, including bills in 10 states that would permit or require the elimination of tabulating equipment and adopt the hand-counting of ballots.

In total, 14 bills would permit or require hand-counting, none of which have advanced. Two states with divided governments—[Arizona](#) and [Kentucky](#)—adopted laws requiring some form of hand-to-eye post-election audits. In [South Dakota](#) this year, three counties rejected local ballot measures that would have required the hand counting of ballots.

Other notable new laws related to voting equipment not mentioned elsewhere in the report includes Idaho's [S 1394](#) which requires new testing for voting machines and prohibits any part of the vote tally system—defined as the total combination of equipment used to define or read ballots and verify accuracy; mark, scan, and count ballots; report or produce election results; and maintain and produce any audit trail information—from being connected to the internet or receiving or transmitting data through wireless communications.

In New Hampshire, [HB 154](#) authorizes city or town officials to use electronic ballot counting devices so long as they are approved by the state's Ballot Law Commission. The legislation also created a requirement that electronic ballot counting devices be stored and sealed in a location specified by the secretary of state. Finally, in Louisiana, [HB 962](#) prohibits filming or otherwise recording the preparation, inspection, testing, sealing, and locking of early voting machines or the canvass of absentee/mail-in ballots.

## Absentee/mail-in ballot administration

Three states with Republican trifectas added new definitions of who may return another voter's ballot.

- Idaho adopted [H 599](#) which stipulates that only election officials, postal workers, common carrier employees, a person paid by the voter, a relative of the voter or member of their household, or a caregiver may collect or deliver another voter's voted or unvoted ballot. It also provides that collecting and delivering more than 10 absentee/mail-in ballots is a felony.

- Mississippi's [SB 2425](#) adds definitions of “caregiver,” “family member,” and “household member.” These are the only individuals permitted by state law, other than election officials or postal carriers, to return another voter’s absentee ballot. Mississippi also prohibited the use of ballot drop boxes, changed where absentee/mail-in ballots are counted from the office of the circuit clerk to the county registrar’s office, and authorized anyone required to be on-call on Election Day to vote absentee through [HB 1406](#).
- In Louisiana, [HB 476](#) prohibits anyone from submitting more than one marked ballot per election, with an exception for an immediate family member of a voter. Louisiana also adopted [SB 155](#), which provides that only immediate family members or election employees may assist with more than one voter certificate required to be submitted with an absentee/mail-in ballot. It also requires that a witness for such a certificate must be at least 18 years-old, and must provide a mailing address along with their signature.

Elsewhere in Republican trifecta activity, Alabama adopted [SB 1](#) which bans anyone from distributing a prefilled absentee/mail-in application to another voter and prohibits a third-party from knowingly receiving a payment or gift for distributing, ordering, requesting, collecting, completing, prefiling, obtaining, or delivering a voter’s application. And, Tennessee changed the deadline to request an absentee ballot from seven to 10 days before an election through [HB 2294](#) / [SB 1967](#).

Out of states with Democratic trifectas, only Connecticut has adopted a significant change to absentee/mail-in ballot laws. Connecticut Gov. [Ned Lamont](#) (D) signed [HB 5498](#) on June 6, requiring video recording of ballot drop boxes beginning in 2025, adding a requirement that election clerks record the method by which all absentee/mail-in ballots are received and submit this information to the secretary of state, and prohibiting the distribution of more than five absentee/mail-in ballot applications to any individual more than 90 days before the start of an election.

Connecticut also adopted [HB 5308](#) which allows voters confined in a nursing home to designate someone to deliver them an absentee/mail-in ballot. Both bills had bipartisan support. Connecticut voters will decide whether to adopt no-excuse absentee voting through a [ballot measure](#) this November.

## Restoration of voting rights

Two states with Republican trifectas passed laws that more quickly return voting rights to certain individuals convicted of a felony.

In Oklahoma, Gov. [Kevin Stitt](#) (R) signed [HB 1629](#) on May 13, restoring voting rights to people convicted of a felony after receiving a pardon or commutation of their sentence. Oklahoma already restored voting rights to people convicted of a felony after completion of their sentence, including prison time, parole and probation, but individuals who received a pardon or commutation of their sentence were still ineligible to register or vote until the completion of time prescribed for incarceration, parole, and probation under their original conviction.

Under the new law, individuals convicted of a felony regain the right to vote immediately upon receiving a pardon or a commutation reducing their sentence, including parole or probation, regardless of the sentence length or terms of their original conviction. The law also accounts for sentences stemming from a crime that has been reclassified from a felony to a misdemeanor, and allows individuals convicted of these crimes to immediately regain the right to vote when they are no

longer in prison, on parole, or on probation for such an offense.

In Nebraska, [LB 20](#) became law without the signature of Gov. [Jim Pillen](#) (R), the first bill to become law in Nebraska without a governor's signature since 2001.

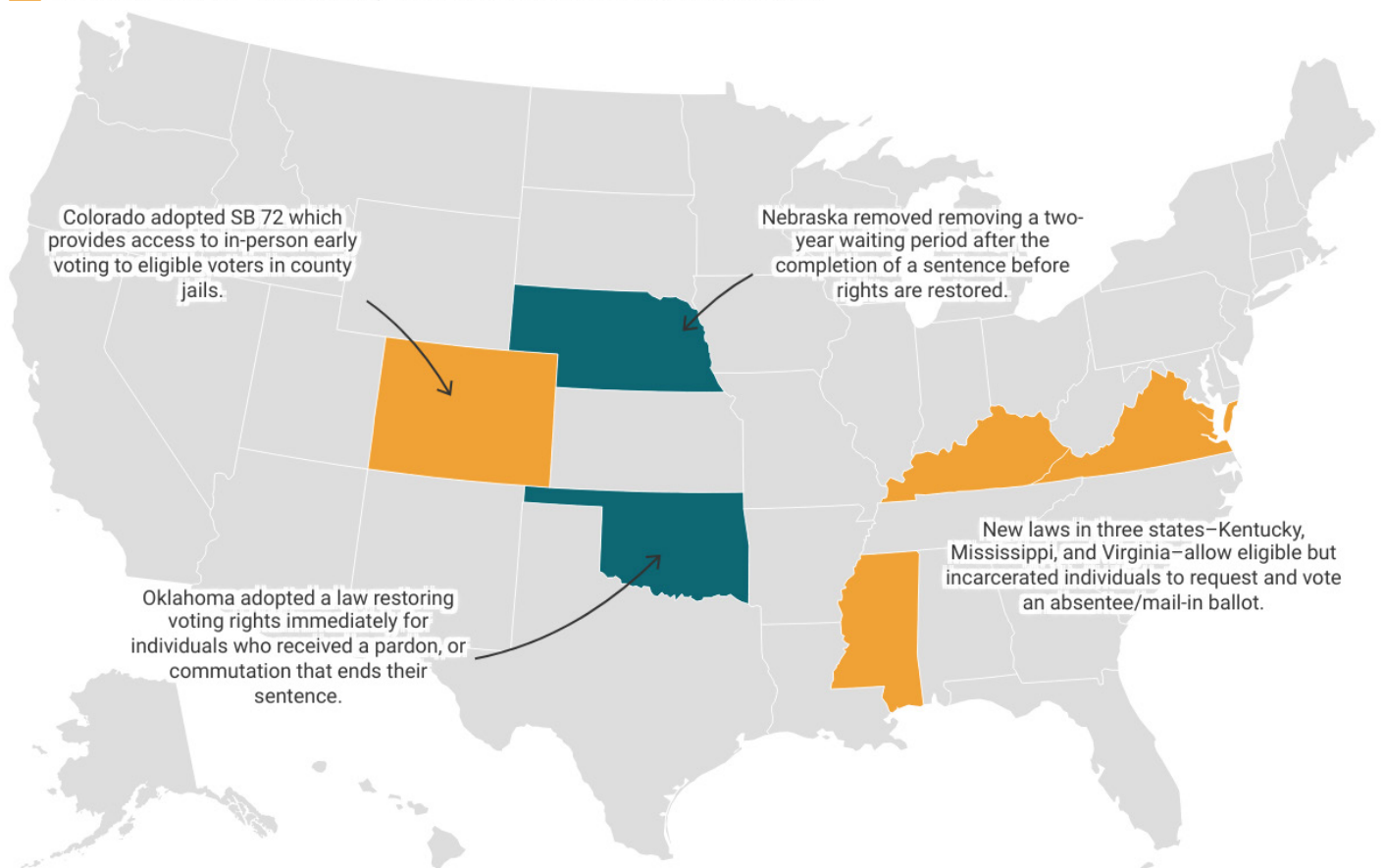
The bill changed the timeline for restoring voting rights to people convicted of a felony by removing a two-year waiting period after the completion of a sentence before rights are restored. Under the new law, voting rights are restored to an individual convicted of a felony immediately upon the completion of their sentence, including prison time, parole, and probation. The new law will take effect before the November general election.

Two other states—[Minnesota](#) and [New Mexico](#)—have adopted similar laws since 2022.

## Restoration of voting rights

Showing states that adopted new laws in 2024 that more quickly restore voting rights for some individuals convicted of a felony, or related to voting by incarcerated but eligible individuals. As of June 6.

- New law restoring voting rights more quickly for some
- New law related to voting by eligible but incarcerated individuals



Elsewhere, Colorado, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Virginia made changes to voting rules for incarcerated eligible voters. See [above](#) for mention of new laws in [Colorado](#) and [Virginia](#). [Kentucky](#) and [Mississippi](#) adopted laws that allow eligible voters that are incarcerated to request an absentee/mail in ballot.

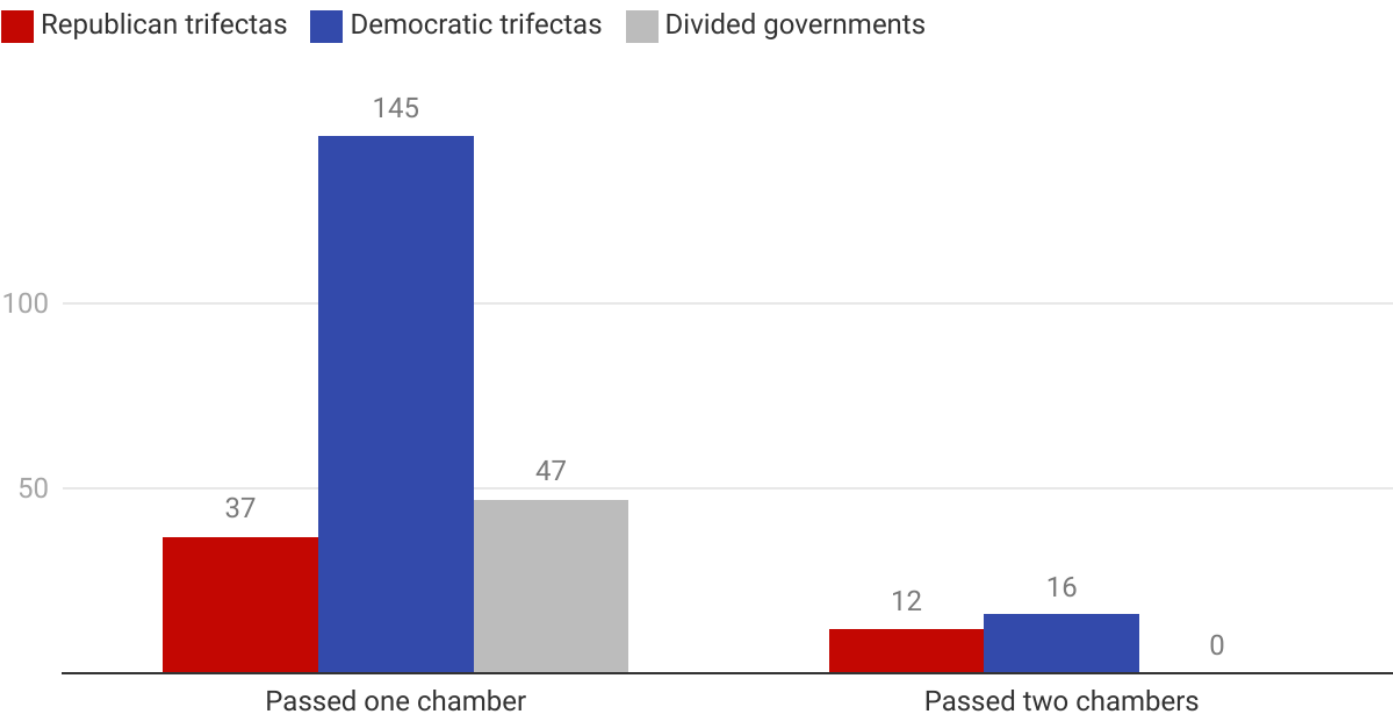
# What's left?

As of June 14, 2024, 32 state legislatures had adjourned their regular session for the year. Fourteen other states were in regular session or recess, and four states do not hold even-year legislative sessions.

While most states have concluded legislative business for the year, there were still 257 bills that had passed at least one legislative chamber and were still under consideration by another chamber or a governor. Most of these (161 bills) were in states with Democratic trifectas, including 62 in New York and 35 in California. New Hampshire had passed the most bills (22) out of a chamber out of states with a Republican trifecta still in session. Of states with divided governments, North Carolina, which had not yet adopted any changes to election laws this year, was still considering the most bills (52).

## Advancing bills by trifecta status

Showing the number of election bills that have passed one or two legislative chambers by trifecta status, as of June 10, 2024.



Ballotpedia will continue to cover state legislative changes to election laws throughout the rest of the year, culminating in the Year-End State of Election Administration Report to be released in December.

Check out past versions of this report and Ballotpedia's monthly election legislation updates [here](#).